

Statistics for Superheroes

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

One person makes **six pounds** of trash **EACH day** (that's **1.5 tons a year**)!

75% of the trash we make **CAN be recycled** (which means it can be reused)!

People throw away **21.5 million tons** of food each year. This food could be composted.

Composting is a way of recycling food. It breaks itself down and essentially makes dirt to regrow food.

BOTTLES AND CANS

55 billion aluminum cans were not recycled (which means they became trash). This is enough cans to fill the Empire State Building twenty times (that's a lot of cans).

During the time it takes you to read this sentence, **50,000 more 12-ounce aluminum cans** are made. Let's recycle them!

Although recycling is the most common method of plastic waste pollution prevention, **less than one percent** of all plastics products are recycled in the U.S. Americans throw away 25,000,000 plastic beverage bottles every hour!

PAPER

Each ton (2,000 pounds) of recycled paper can save:
3.5 cubic yards of landfill*
(landfill is a huge area of land that is used to store trash, GROSS!)
17 thirty foot (pulp) trees
7,000 gallons of water
380 gallons of oil
4,100 kwh of energy
by recycling paper we can get rid of 60 pounds of air pollutants

The amount of wood and paper we throw away each year is enough to heat 50,000,000 homes for 20 years.